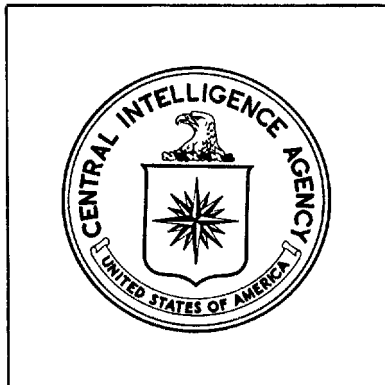


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Soviet Union Eastern Europe

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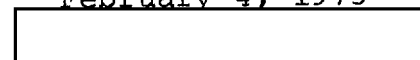


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SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

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Soviet Emigration

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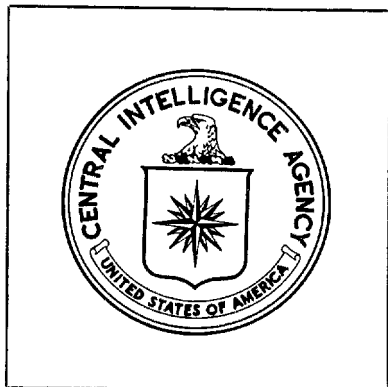
Soviet Commercial

Visitor Highlights During January 3

CHRONOLOGY. 4

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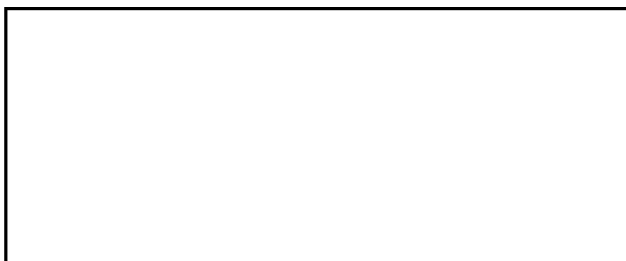
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Soviet Emigration

Soviet emigration to Israel sank to a two-year low of 1,150 in January, while emigration to the US reached a record high of 120. Given the short time periods involved, however, neither figure necessarily reflects a Soviet policy shift.

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One reason may be that Moscow's campaign to play up the difficulties of life in Israel is having some effect. Soviet journals, newspapers, and propaganda lecturers have been stressing Israeli economic and social problems and depicting Soviet Jews as rapidly losing interest in emigration. The January 31 issue of *New Times* claims that fewer than 1,500 requests for emigration to Israel remain on hand (a figure disputed by Soviet Jewish activists). A public lecturer added a pointed reminder last week that the USSR will not readmit emigrants "under any circumstances."

The Soviets may also attempt to discourage prospective emigrants by tightening exit requirements. A Moscow newspaper on February 1 denounced the issuance of invitations to emigrate sent by Israelis who falsely claim to be relatives of the Soviet recipients. Public criticism of this common subterfuge could presage an official drive to restrict emigration to cases of bona fide family reunification. The Soviets could also be contemplating action to frustrate the growing number of emigrants who disingenuously specify Israel as their intended destination to improve their chances for exit permission.

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With emigration rates under close scrutiny in the West, the Soviets are likely to move cautiously. This would be especially true if they intend to make a new try at a trade agreement with the US.

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Soviet Commercial Visitor
Highlights During January

Moscow's repudiation of the 1972 US-USSR Trade Agreement had no apparent effect on Soviet commercial visitor traffic during January. Although there were 25 percent fewer visitors in January than in December (about 100, of whom 53 had been rescheduled from previous months), the total was greater than that for January 1974. There were no significant cancellations of visits already planned. The most important commercial delegation was led by Deputy Minister of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry V. F. Zaretsky; he and six other timber specialists toured US timber companies in the northwest, studying American technology and operations and exploring the possibility of bilateral timber development projects.

There were five main categories of commercial visits during the month. The automotive industry again headed the list, followed by the electronics, petrochemical, timber and ferrous metallurgy industries. Deputy Minister of the Fish Industry V. M. Kamentsev also visited this country--for negotiations with US government officials, rather than with businesses.

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CHRONOLOGY

January 28

Defense Minister Grechko and party secretary Ponomarev address the opening session of an all-army conference of ideological workers in Moscow; their general endorsement of detente is echoed later in the day by trade union boss Shelepin in an address to a meeting of the Communist-front World Federation of Trade Unions in East Berlin. [REDACTED]

25X1

SALT's standing consultative commission convenes in Geneva. [REDACTED]

25X1

East German Politburo member Axen and Foreign Minister Fischer conclude a two-day, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

USSR and Japan sign in Tokyo an agreement for \$152 million in Japanese credits for development of oil and natural gas resources in the shelf off Sakhalin Island. [REDACTED]

25X1

Former Czechoslovak party leader and president Novotny, who was ousted by the "Prague Spring" reformers in 1968, dies at age 70. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet Deputy Premier I. Novikov concludes his official visit to North Korea for talks on bilateral economic relations. [REDACTED]

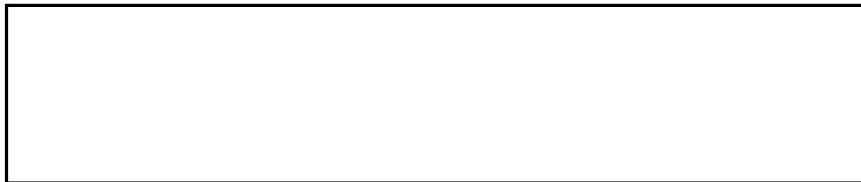
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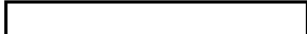
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Romanian Deputy Premier Radulescu arrives in North Vietnam for talks on bilateral economic cooperation. 

25X1

January 29 Interparliamentary Union meeting opens in Belgrade. 

25X1

Politburo candidate-member Ponomarev confers with Greek Communist leader Florakis in Moscow. 

25X1

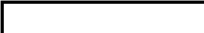
January 30



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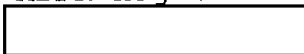
A signed commentary in *Izvestia* contends that "significant new steps" toward arms control are a "vital necessity" for the USSR and the US.



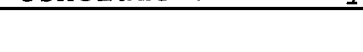
Czechoslovak Minister of Fuel and Power Ehrenberger concludes an official, three-day visit to the USSR. 


25X1

MBFR negotiators convene in Vienna.



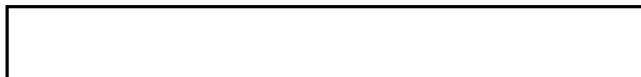
Warsaw Pact deputy foreign ministers conclude a two-day meeting in Moscow.



Politburo member Shelepin goes to Duesseldorf for a meeting with German Trade Union Federation chief Vetter; minor incidents mar the visit. 

25X1

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25X1

January 31

SALT resumes in Geneva. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED]

Tass reports Soviet ships will sweep for mines in large area near Port Said, Egypt. [REDACTED]

25X1

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Chnoupek ends a five-day, official visit to Finland. [REDACTED]

25X1

Izvestia announces the USSR will re-value the ruble upward by 3 percent against the US dollar effective tomorrow. [REDACTED]

25X1

President Podgorny confers the Order of Lenin and a gold medal on Politburo candidate-member Ponomarev, marking his 70th birthday, in Kremlin ceremonies. [REDACTED]

25X1

Yugoslav-EC mixed committee begins a four-day meeting in Brussels. [REDACTED]

25X1

Politburo member Shelepin flies to West Germany after attending a three-day extraordinary session of the World Federation of Trade Unions. [REDACTED]

25X1

Fedayeen delegation leaves Belgrade, reportedly having secured diplomatic recognition for the Palestine Liberation Organization's office there. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 4, 1975

25X1

February 1 Foreign Minister Gromyko commences a three-day, official visit to Syria.

[REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian President Ceausescu and Yugoslav emissary Dolanc conclude two days of talks at Timisoara on bilateral party matters and "some topical international questions." [REDACTED]

25X1

East Germany and Japan sign their first trade agreement in Tokyo. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian Premier Manescu concludes his six-day, official visit to Syria. [REDACTED]

25X1

Prominent political commentator Yury Zhukov tells a Soviet television audience that the USSR will not pay off its \$722 million Lend-Lease debt, but that Brezhnev still plans to make his official visit to the US this year. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 2 Foreign Minister Gromyko meets with Syrian President Asad, fedayeen leader Arafat, and Syrian Communists.

[REDACTED]

25X1

Austrian Chancellor Kreisky concludes his four-day, "unofficial" visit to Zakopane, Poland, for talks with Polish Premier Jaroszewicz. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 3 Foreign Minister Gromyko leaves Syria and begins a three-day, official visit to Egypt; he has a three-hour meeting with Foreign Minister Fahmi, and the two sign consular and economic planning agreements as well as the cultural protocol for 1975. [REDACTED]

25X1

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[REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

Romanian - North Vietnam trade protocol
for 1975 is signed in Hanoi. [REDACTED]

25X1

Cosmonauts aboard Salyut-4 set a new
Soviet record for time in space on one
mission. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 4

Representatives of the EC Commission
begin three days of talks in Moscow
with CEMA officials. [REDACTED]

25X1

FUTURE EVENTS

Early
February

Moroccan Prime Minister Osman to
make an official visit to the USSR.
[REDACTED]

25X1

Finnish Foreign Minister Karjalainen
to make an official visit to the USSR.
[REDACTED]

25X1

February 7

UN Secretary General Waldheim to
commence a three-day, official visit
to East Germany. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 10

[REDACTED]

25X1

US and USSR to resume in Moscow their
talks on handling peaceful nuclear
explosion devices in a threshold test
ban treaty. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 13

UK Prime Minister Wilson to commence
a five-day, official visit to the USSR.
[REDACTED]

25X1

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[REDACTED]

25X1

Mid- Polish Foreign Minister Olszowski
February to make an official visit to Hungary.

25X1

February 2

Defense Minister Grechko to begin a
four-day, official visit to India.

25X1

Late
February

French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues
expected to make an official visit
to Poland.

25X1

25X1

Early March

French parliamentary delegation led
by former Foreign Minister Couve de
Murville to make an official visit
to the USSR.

25X1

March 4

26-nation Geneva disarmament con-
ference, co-chaired by the US and the
USSR, expected to convene.

25X1

March 11

Romanian chief of staff Coman to
begin a nine-day, official visit to
the US, the first by such a high-ranking
officer from a Warsaw Pact member-state.

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March 17-22 Hungarian Communist Party to hold
its 11th Party Congress. [REDACTED]

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Late March French Prime Minister Chirac to make
an official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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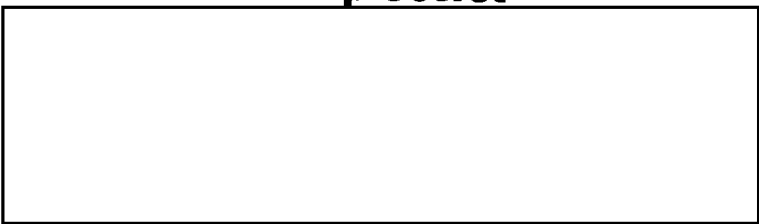
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